GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:47
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2005
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER AN INTEGRATED PROGRAMME FOR STREET CHILDREN
Boianapalli Shri Vinod Kumar

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) The financial assistance allocated and released to different States/UTs, local bodies, educational institutions and the Voluntary Organisations/NGOs under the `An Integrated Programme for street children` during each of the last three years and the current year, State/Union Territory-wise and VO/NGO-wise;

(b) the actual amount utilized under the scheme during the said period;

(c) the number of street children rehabilitated under the programme during the said period, State/Union Territory-wise;

(d) whether any performance appraisal/evaluation of the programme had been carried out to improve its functioning; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT (SMT. MEIRA KUMAR)

(a) (b) (c) (d) and (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a), (b) (c) (d) and (e) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 47 for answer on 3rd March, 2005 regarding Financial Assistance under `An Integrated Programme for Street Children`

(a) and (b): Under the Scheme `An Integrated Programme for Street Children`,financiai assistance is not allocated State/Union Territory-wise and NGO-wise. The amount released to each State depends upon the number of complete proposals received, receipt of utilization certificates, and the Budget Provision. However,the total amount allocated and released under the Scheme is as under:

(Rs.crore)

Year	Budget Estimates	Amount released
2001-02	10.80	8.06
2002-03 (Revised Estimates)	11.00	11.00
2003-04	9.90	9.90
2004-05	12.55	9.04

The details of assistance released during the last three years and the current year, State/Union Territory-wise and NGO-wise are given in the statement at Annexure-I. The actual amount utilized by most NGOs is same as the amount released to them during a particular year, in cases where unspent balance is left at the end of year, the same is adjusted in the assistance released during the next financial year.

(c) The details of number of children benefitted under the scheme by way of facilities such as shelter,nutrition, health care, education, vocational training, recreation and in some cases, restoration to families or referral to long term institutional care are given in the statement at Annexure-II. In addition to the above beneficiaries, a large number of children have benefitted by way of the Childline service which is also being assisted under the Scheme. Childline is a 24-hour toll-free telephone service which can be accessed by a child in distress or an adult on his behalf.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. All the projects being assisted by the Ministry are inspected annually. The funds are released to the organisations only after the inspection reports are found satisfactory. An `evaluation of welfare programmes for street children in Delhi and Uttar Pradesh was also conducted in 2003-04 for the Ministry by `The Organisation for Applied Socio-Economic Systems (The Oases Society) New Delhi.The broad findings of the study are as under:

(i) There is need for allocating additional money for better nutrition for children.

(ii) There is a need for training and orientation of staff running these projects as well as sensitization of police personnel on child

rights.

(iii) There is need for concerted efforts to check children joining the ranks of street children through poverty alleviation programmes, women empowerment and increased health-care and education facilities.